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The following report describes two Communist Party schools for officials and the Vienna Party school; information on the Leo Gabler school and the CP school at the Jesuit monastery in Kalksburg is based upon notes made at the schools by sources. Source of paragraph 6 to 8 seems to have attended a course for older and experienced Communists, most of whom had been CP officials for some time. Source of paragraphs 1 to 5, however, attended a school designed for young active CP officials who had been nominated by their Party organizations to attend the course. This source, whose report is more detailed, summarized the course which he attended as "teaching young Party officials how to argue intelligently on the merits of Communism". Both of the first two courses described below were given to students who were assumed to have a Marxist background and may be considered as orientation and refresher courses. While hostile arguments from the student body were discouraged, the students were invited to ask questions; two questions which seemed to embarrass several of the lecturers were (1) "why are the Soviet directors of many USIA enterprises 'anti-Socialist' and not representative of a truly Communist state?" and (2) "why do the Soviets consistently ignore the Austrian Communist Party and refuse to cooperate with it as a political force?". The speakers attempted to answer the second question by praising Soviet abstention from Austrian politics.

CP School Leo Gabler. Vienna

1. Source attended CP school, Leo Gabler, in Vienna XVIII, Martinstrasse 9, 2nd floor. The course began on 9 August 1948 and lasted for two weeks; it was attended by twenty-three CP officials, two of whom were women. The instructors were all Communists, probably all Austrians; many were officials of the Austrian Communist Party Central Committee. The course was under the general

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direction of Karl Strohmeier, assisted by Dichter; the latter is a member of CP District Headquarters for Vienna II and of the Vienna CP City Headquarters.

2. Instructors and Lecture Topics

Ludwig Soswinski	Austrian Economy
Rossak	The Anschluss The Marshall Plan The CP Plan The Trade Union Movement
Hirsch	International Affairs The World Today Prices, Wages, Profits
Hermann Mitteraecker	National Affairs
Rusizka	Democracy and Peoples Democracies The Communist Party
Friedrich Hexmann	Worker's Unity
Fachs	The Austrian Communist Party

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25X1A2a ~~Comment:~~ Soswinsky, Strohmeier, Mitteraecker, and Hexmann, mentioned above, are well known. Rusizka is probably identical with Alfred Ruzicka of Hirsch is possibly identical with Albert Hirsch or Egon Hirsch of We have no previous references to the other lecturers.)

3. Party officials attending course

Berger	Trade union official
Holzinger	Trade union official
Kubitz	CP District Headquarters, Vienna III
Swoboda	Nurse in the Wilhelmina Hospital
Uhlmann	
Kubesch	
Pollak	Radio technician employed in a Vienna radio factory
Weber	
Dorfner	
Mitracek	
Lustig	Business man, living in Hietzing; member of CP District Headquarters in Hietzing (Vienna XIII).
Vokroj	Social consultant at the national headquarters of the FOeJ. Employed by Globus Verlag.

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Kogel

District Headquarters, Vienna II.
Employed by the State press.

Ruprecht

Hosnedl

Spalinka

Tomasoli

Veigel

Schachinger

Vienna III. Works in the Ministry
of Interior as a monitor.

4. Informal seminars and discussions were held after each lecture. Students were required to pass regular written and oral examinations; these examinations were graded and the final examination, which lasted four hours and covered the entire course, was graded, criticized, and became part of the Party member's permanent record at the Central Committee. Source believes that a written report on each student was forwarded to the Central Committee by Strohmeier.

Highlights of Lectures

5. a. Party Organization: Workers must learn to organize in small groups of any size and type. Description of CP organization in Austria: plant (Betrieb) organization; most important elements are the plant and section organizations. Of these two, the plant organization is the most important for the following reasons:
- 1) Here the working classes confront capitalism.
 - 2) The fight for daily interests develops class consciousness.
 - 3) Practical experience teaches the workers the value of organization.
 - 4) In a factory, workers can be concentrated into strong striking forces.
 - 5) The factories are the roots of the capitalist system.

Violations of these basic principles occur in the highest Party circles. It is necessary to improve the plant organization. The treasurer has a most important function in the plant organization. Work in such an organization must not be confused with trade union work. Functions of the plant organization are to (1) collect funds for itself, (2) organize the Communists within the trade unions, and (3) indoctrinate the Communists in the factories. In USIA factories, the plant organization must not interfere with the management but must concentrate on the important task of indoctrinating the workers.

- b. The Section: Similar to the old Social Democratic "Sektion", it is made up of 3 to 12 smaller units (Sprengel). Members of the section are usually housewives and members of free professions. In Vienna there are 240 sec-

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tions; membership in each varies from 50 to 800 persons. The section should never be allowed to get too large. A section is controlled by a cadre of officials (Funktionärkader) comprised of the section head (Obmann), his deputy, the organizational director (Organisationleiter), the treasurer, the consultant for education (Volksbildungsreferent), the Massenreferent, a women's representative, and a representative of the Communist Youth Movement, who does not belong to the Free Austrian Youth (FOeJ). The section head and his deputy are responsible for the general supervision of the section; they submit a monthly report covering all section events of importance. They are supposed to advise and assist their subordinate officials. The organizational director is responsible for carrying out within the section orders from the (district) Party headquarters immediately over it, and for the organization of the section as a whole.

- e. The Treasurer: Responsible for all financial transactions of the section. His functions are to collect Party dues, keep the books, and see that the section does not run into financial difficulties.
- d. The Volksbildungsreferent: Acts as spokesman and propagandist for the section. His three main tasks are (1) schooling of the cadre of officials and of Party members within the section, (2) spreading Party propaganda among the broad masses by posters, displays, and meetings, (3) procuring speakers from district headquarters for talks at section level.
- e. The Massenreferent: His main task is to observe relations of the CP with other political parties and to penetrate nonpolitical organizations (Tenant's Union, animal-breeding clubs, nature clubs, sport clubs) by using qualified Party members and subverting these organizations by using them as front organizations.
- f. The Women's Representative: Charged with imbuing wives of Party members with the Party doctrine and assisting wives whenever necessary.
- g. The Young Communist Leader: Responsible for activities of young Communists on the section level. This position has long been debated; for some time, FOeJ has felt itself responsible for the education of young Communists. Opposed to this are many old members of the Communist Youth Movement who believe that the FOeJ has too many non-Party members to be entrusted with the important task of educating young Communists in Marxist-Leninist theories.
- h. Sprengel: The Sprengel was organized in order to limit the size of the section and to increase control over members. It is to be limited to 30-40 members, all considered reliable; the Sprengel is required to be in touch with 300-800 voters. Each Sprengel must have 3 to 4 activists in addition to the unit's leader. The latter controls his small group on a personal basis and is responsible to a section head to whom he submits a monthly report. This report includes the number of persons living in the Sprengel (which is a geographical as well as a political unit), their political feelings, non-Party members who have Communist leanings, membership in FOeJ, Boy Scouts, Socialist Youth; steps that may be taken to further Party interests; and how many Party members also belong to nonpolitical organizations. Although these reports should be submitted regularly, they are often neglected because of lack of personnel. The Sprengel leader must also organize reading circles and discussion groups where Communist literature, usually Weg und Ziel, is read and discussed.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~CP School of the Jesuit Monastery, Kalksburg near Moedling

6. Source attended a course which started on 11 October 1948 and lasted one week; the school was located at the Jesuit monastery in Kalksburg near Moedling, Lower Austria. The course, attended by eighteen students, mostly men in their middle thirties, was called Course III. Source noted that all of the students appeared to be Party officials, well versed in Marxist principles and well indoctrinated in CP policies. He believes that most of the lecturers were not Austrians, but most probably veteran Party men from Poland and other eastern countries.

7. Lecturers and lecture topics

Engineer Ribonek	International Situation
Fredrik	Socialism - History of Communism
Tanka	Organization of the Austrian Communist Party
Wiskocil	People's Democracies
Dr. Philip	Propaganda
Captain Mirkov (uniformed Soviet officer)	Soviet Union
Eilenberg and Frau Wiesinger	How to Combat the Marshall Plan
Frau Masorky	Cominform
Loeschkov	Action Committees

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Comment: Frau Wiesinger is possibly identical with Hilda Wiesinger, previously reported as connected with the FOeJ. Our files show no previous reference to the other lecturers.)

8. Party members attending course

Alge, George - from Lustenau - textile worker.

Herrburger, Franz - from Bregenz - railroad office employee.

Tschurschentaler - from Klagenfurt - section chief and businessman.

Tschirnich - from Linz - post office employee.

Feuchtinger - from Graz - small shop owner.

Moree - from Bleiburg - occupation unknown.

Breinkopf - from Innsbruck - occupation unknown.

Wagner - from Salzburg - City Government employee.

Brandtner - from Saalfelden - guide and hotel waiter.

Woggerer - from Feldkirchen - wood merchant.

Krautkopf - from Timelkam - shoemaker.

Zuckermann - from Waidhofen - occupation unknown.

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Leitgerer - Gmünden - innkeeper and Party official.

Faschler - from Atz - occupation unknown.

Porrer - from Klagenfurt - occupation unknown.

Tschernetz - from Klagenfurt - occupation unknown.

25X1A6a Zorer or Zohrer, from St. Veit - occupation unknown.

 Comment: It is noted that most of these students are from the western zones of Austria.)

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Vienna CP Party School

9. A report from a third source, dated 7 November 1948, states that, at the last meeting of the Communist Party District Headquarters Committee for Vienna VII, the following new decisions of the CP Central Committee were announced. In future, the choice of members who are to attend the Vienna Party school will be made with particular care. So-called school funds will be created in individual CP districts or sections, so as to afford impecunious but worthy Communists the opportunity to attend the school. A comprehensive Marxist library is to be established under the direction of a Communist capable of advising the students. These books will be made available to students in special reading rooms only.

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